

Equality Impact Assessment

Supplementary Planning Documents

Stage 1 Details of the proposal

Name of service

Regeneration and Culture

Directorate

Growth and Sustainability

Name of officer responsible for EIA

Paula Tweed

Name of senior sponsor

Garry Hildersley

Description / purpose of proposal

This EIA covers all the Supplementary Planning Documents and Planning Advice Notes prepared by the Council to date since the adoption of the Local Plan on 3rd January, 2019.

It has been updated to include those SPD's updated and produced since the first draft in 2019.

Date EIA started

24/10/19

Review date

Latest review done 1/12/23

Further reviews to be done to include other SPD's

Stage 2 - About the proposal

What is being proposed?

Following adoption of the Local Plan on 3rd January, 2019, the Council prepared and adopted 26 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's) and Planning Advice Notes (PAN's 2019).

The Local Plan was subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA). This EIA considers the implications of all the SPD's and PAN's prepared to date.

The documents considered in this EIA are listed below:

Adopted May 2019

- Financial Contributions for schools SPD
- Barn Conversions SPD
- Trees and Hedgerows SPD
- Shop Front Design SPD
- Advertisements SPD
- House Extensions and other Domestic Alterations SPD
- Residential Amenity and the siting of buildings SPD
- Design of Housing Development SPD
- Open Space Provision on New Housing Developments
- Removal of Agricultural Occupancy Conditions SPD
- Mortar Mixes for pointing historic buildings
- Hot Food Takeaways SPD
- Walls and Fences SPD
- Lawful Development Certificates
- Affordable Housing
- Heritage Impact Statements
- Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Hot Food Takeaways PAN

Adopted November 2019

- Sustainable Travel SPD
- Planning Obligations SPD
- Parking SPD
- Section 38 Agreements PAN
- Section 278 SPD
- Development on land affected by contamination SPD
- Elsecar Conservation Area Design and Maintenance Guide SPD
- Cawthorne Village Design Statement SPD

Adopted July 2022

- Update to Sustainable Travel SPD (supersedes 2019 version)
- Update to Affordable Housing SPD (supersedes 2019 version)

Adopted July 2023

- Update to the Design of Housing SPD
- New Sustainable Construction and Climate Change Adaptation SPD

Proposed for adoption March 2024

- Update to Biodiversity and Geodiversity SPD
- Update to House Extensions and Other Domestic Alterations SPD

Consulted on Summer 2023

- Update to Financial Contributions to Educational Provision SPD

Why is the proposal required?

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and Planning Advice Notes (PAN) provide further advice and guidance to people submitting planning applications. They set out guidance on various policy topics and how Local Plan policies will be applied.

What will this proposal mean for customers?

The documents mean that anyone submitting a planning application will have more clarity on certain topics. The documents deal with a wide range of issues including design so will have implications for future residents of new homes, users of businesses etc.

Use the questions in the Guidance (Preliminary screening process**) to decide whether a full EIA is required**

X Yes - EIA required (go to next section)

No – EIA not required (provide rationale below)

Data: Generic demographics

What generic data do you know about the people who will be affected by the proposal?

This could be internal data held such as ward profiles, JSNA results, if the proposal is inward facing look at the current workforce data,

Are there any external data publications relevant to the proposal? For example from the Office of National statistics, Census data, Public Health England, Charity publications

The documents will be used by anyone who submits a planning application in the borough. For example this could be residents who wish to extend their home, or could be developers undertaking larger scale developments, for example building houses or employment land.

Data: Service data / feedback

What do you already know about the equality impact of the service/location/policy/contract? This could be from complaints / compliments, stakeholder feedback, staff anecdotal evidence etc.

Data: Previous / similar EIA's

Has there already been an EIA on all or part of this before, or something related? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

An EIA was undertaken on the whole of the Local Plan and the policies it contains. The SPD's link to the Local Plan policies relevant to the particular topic. The Local Plan EIA concluded that all policies and proposals apply to all sectors of the community equally. The policies make provision for a range of housing types to meet differing needs for example affordable housing etc. The Design policy D1 seeks to ensure development is designed to be accessible to all.

Data: Formal consultation

Has there been a formal consultation process? External engagement with equality forums? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

There is a formal consultation process required to produce supplementary planning documents. Approval to consult on draft documents is sought from cabinet. A minimum of a four week public consultation process then takes place which is advertised in the press, on social media. Documents are made available on the Council's website. Hard copies are made available at the Library@thelightbox and all branch libraries. Once the documents are amended in light of comments made, Cabinet and Full Council approval is sought to adopt them.

Consultation on the documents that were adopted in May 2019 took place between 4th March 2019 and 1st April 2019.

Consultation on the 8 documents adopted on 28th November 2019 took place between 16/9/19 and 14/10/19.

Consultation on the documents adopted on 28th July 2022 took place between 29th November 2021 and 5th January 2022.

Consultation on the documents adopted 27th July 2023 took place between 28th November, 2022 and 6th January 2023.

Consultation on the documents yet to be adopted took place between 3rd July 2023 and 8th August 2023.

The same formal consultation process described above has taken place on the updated Sustainable Travel and Affordable Housing SPD's late 2021. The Equality Forums were sent the updated documents and asked if they wish to engage in the consultation.

The same formal consultation process was followed for the Design of Housing SPD, the Sustainable Construction and Climate Change Adaptation SPD, and the latest 3 consultation documents. These are: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation; House Extensions and Other Domestic Alterations and Financial Contributions to Educational Provision. The Equality Forums were sent the documents and asked if they wished to engage. No engagement took place, although we were able to attend the Youth Council to give presentations on all documents and comments have been taken into account.

Considering the evidence above, state the likely impact the proposal will have on people with different protected characteristics

(state if disproportionately high negative impact and highlight with red text)

Positive and negative impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.

Protected characteristic	Negative '-'	Positive '+'	No impact	Don't know	Details
Sex			X		All the documents are available for all to use
Age			X		<p>All the documents are available for all to use</p> <p>The updated Design of Housing SPD is requiring that a percentage of dwellings are built to the following Building Regulations standards based on evidence in our Strategic Housing Market Assessment which notes the aging population and levels of disability in Barnsley.</p> <p>26% of all new dwellings should be built to M4(2) accessible and adaptable standard</p> <p>6% of new dwellings should be built to wheelchair accessible M4(3)(2)(b)</p> <p>Text has been added to the updated Design of Housing SPD to provide further guidance on design that takes into account those suffering with Alzheimer's or dementia.</p>
<p>Disabled</p> <p><i>Learning disability, Physical disability, Sensory Impairment, Deaf People, invisible illness, Mental Health etc</i></p>		X			<p>A reference is included in the Parking SPD to ensure adequate parking is provided to cater for the needs of people with disabilities to ensure that all parking is designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate.</p>

				<p>The Sustainable Travel SPD seeks contributions towards public transport and active travel enhancements and improvements to ensure developments are accessible to all. Whilst the document does not deal with the design of particular schemes, a cross reference has been added to ensure that all schemes that contributions are collected towards using this document, meet the needs of disabled people and are designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate. This is still the case in the updated version.</p> <p>The updated Design of Housing SPD is requiring that a percentage of dwellings are built to the following Building Regulations standards based on evidence in our Strategic Housing Market Assessment which notes the aging population and levels of disability in Barnsley.</p> <p>26% of all new dwellings should be built to M4(2) accessible and adaptable standard</p> <p>6% of new dwellings should be built to wheelchair accessible M4(3)(2)(b)</p>
Race			X	All the documents are available for all to use. Translation and interpretation assistance will be made available upon request.
Religion & Belief			X	All the documents are available for all to use. Translation and interpretation assistance will be made available upon request.

Sexual orientation			X		All the documents are available for all to use
Gender Reassignment			X		All the documents are available for all to use
Marriage / civil partnership			X		All the documents are available for all to use
Pregnancy / maternity			X		All the documents are available for all to use

Other groups you may want to consider					
	Negative	Positive	No impact	Don't know	Details
Ex services			X		As above
Lower socio-economic			X		As above
Other ...					

If the proposal relates to the delivery of a new service, please refer to the Customer minimum access standards self-assessment (**found at**)

If not, move to Stage 7.

Please use the action plan at Stage 7 to document steps that need to be taken to ensure the new service complies with the Equality Act duty to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled people.

The proposal will meet the minimum access standards.

The proposal will not meet the minimum access standards. –provide rationale below.

Stage 7 - Next Steps

To improve your knowledge about the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: community engagement with affected groups, analysis of performance data, service equality monitoring, stakeholder focus group etc.

Action we will take:	Lead Officer	Completion date
Arrange targeted consultation such as face to face meeting with the equality forums as appropriate. Disability Forum likely to be the most relevant to the subjects covered by SPD's.	Paula Tweed	As required when new SPD's are prepared or adopted SPD's reviewed

To improve or mitigate the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: altering the policy to protect affected group, limiting scope of proposed change, reviewing actual impact in future, phasing-in changes over period of time, monitor service provider performance indicators, etc.

Action we will take:	Lead Officer	Completion date
N/A		

To meet the minimum access standards . . .(if relevant)

Actions could include: running focus group with disability forum, amend tender specification, amend business plan to request extra 'accessibility' funding, produce separate MAS action plan, etc.

Action we will take:	Lead Officer	Completion date
N/A		

Please summarise the main findings and next steps identified in this EIA.

The outcomes of this EIA must be documented in cabinet report. You could also include the EIA as an appendix to the report or reference it as a background paper.

You must also record which stakeholders need informing and how you will do this.

Summary of equality impact

The key equality impacts will be around providing translation and interpretation assistance to those individuals that require it to help them understand the SPD/PAN.

A reference is included in the Parking SPD to ensure adequate parking is provided to cater for the needs of people with disabilities to ensure that all parking is designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate.

The Sustainable Travel SPD seeks contributions towards public transport and active travel enhancements and improvements to ensure developments are accessible to all. Whilst the document does not deal with the design of particular schemes, a cross reference has been added to ensure that all schemes that contributions are collected towards using this document, meet the needs of disabled people and are designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate. This is still the case in the updated SPD.

The updated Design of Housing SPD is requiring that a percentage of dwellings are built to the following Building Regulations standards based on evidence in our Strategic Housing Market Assessment which notes the aging population and levels of disability in Barnsley.

26% of all new dwellings should be built to M4(2) accessible and adaptable standard

6% of new dwellings should be built to wheelchair accessible M4(3)(2)(b)

Text has been added to the updated Design of Housing SPD to provide further guidance on design that takes into account those suffering with Alzheimer's or dementia.

Summary of next steps

As stated earlier should any further documents be produced or when SPD's are reviewed, we will seek to arrange targeted consultation such as face to face meeting with the equality forums as appropriate. Disability Forum likely to be the most relevant to the subjects covered by SPD's/ PAN's. Face to face consultation has been offered but has not been taken up other than where we have been invited to present to the Youth Council.

	<p>No face to face consultation took place on the Sustainable Travel SPD and Affordable Housing SPD due to Covid 19.</p> <p>We will ensure that all future consultation material is accessible both on line and in accessible locations.</p>
<p>How stakeholders will be informed</p>	<p>SPD's/PAN's are only applicable to individuals submitting planning applications.</p> <p>Any language/access issues will be addressed based on the merits of the individual application submitted.</p>
<p>Signature (officer responsible for EIA) Date 8/11/21 Updates added 9/5/22 and 3/3/23 Latest updates added 1/12/23</p>	<p>Paula Tweed</p>